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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/478,974	01/06/2000	Lee Evan Nakamura	ST9-99-111	2447

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, MAIKHANH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2176

DATE MAILED: 12/04/2003

10

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/478,974

Applicant(s)

NAKAMURA, LEE EVAN

Examiner

Maikhanh Nguyen

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 January 2000.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. This action is responsive to communications: Amendment A filed 09/15/2003 to the original application filed 01/06/2000.
2. Claims 1-24 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1, 9 and 17 have been amended by Applicant. Claims 1, 9 and 17 are independent claims.

**Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103**

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-2, 4-10, 12-18 and 20-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Seki et al.** (U.S. 6,570,597 – filed 10/1999) in view of **Barker et al.** (U.S. 6,141,659 – filed 05/1998).

**As to independent claim 1**, Seki discloses (*col. 5, lines 45-67*) a method for displaying data (*a display portion*) on a display monitor (*a display device*) under control of a computer (*a computer*), comprising:

- when a field of data includes a separator indicating that there are multiple values for the field (*col. 6, lines 5-58*);

- means for displaying in a page a first portion of the field of data and a graphical element indicating that there is a second portion of the field of data within a display area (*a main icon representative of main data, and a sub-icon display unit that displays a sub-icon representative of sub-data together with the main icon if the sub-data form a part of the main data; col.1, lines 49-62*); and

- means for enabling the page to selectively present the first and second portions of the field of data in response to user input (*the sub-icon representative of the sub-data and forming a part of the main data is displayed while the main icon is being displayed ...the user can intuitively recognize the structure of the main data; col.1, lines 49-62 & col.3, lines 44-54*).

Seki does teach selecting document (*Fig. 18*), but is silent on “retrieving one or more records matching a search criteria, wherein each record includes at least one field of data.”

Barker teaches retrieving one or more records matching a search criteria, wherein each record includes at least one field of data (*search records for data matching entered search criteria; Fig. 5A & col.7, lines 1-17*).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Barker with Seki because it would have provided the capability for retrieving and displaying documents from multiple servers.

**As to dependent claim 2**, Seki discloses the presenting the first and second portions of the field of data comprises displaying the first and second portions in response to the user input.

**As to dependent claim 4**, Seki does not explicitly disclose “the page is an HTML page.”

Barker discloses the page is an HTML page (*col.4, lines 51-59*).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Barker with Seki because it would have provided the capability for retrieving Web page information on-demand from multiple document servers.

**As to dependent claim 5**, Seki teaches selectively present the first and second portion of the field for the record in response to user input (*the sub-icon representative of the sub-data and forming a part of the main data is displayed while the main icon is being displayed ...the user can intuitively recognize the structure of the main data; col.1, lines 49-62 & col.3, lines 44-54*).

Seki, however, does not explicitly disclose “receiving a user request including search criteria; and querying a database on the search criteria to access data records satisfying the search criteria, wherein each accessed data record includes the field of data, wherein there is a display area for each record, further comprising displaying in the display area for each record the at least first portion of the field of data from each accessed data record.

Barker discloses receiving a user request including search criteria; and querying a database on the search criteria to access data records satisfying the search criteria, wherein each accessed data record includes the field of data, wherein there is a display area for each record, further comprising displaying in the display area for each record the at least first portion of the field of data from each accessed data record (*search records for data matching entered search criteria; Figs. 4A & 5A/ col.7, lines 1-17*).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Barker with Seki because it would have provided the capability for retrieving and displaying documents from multiple servers.

**As to dependent claim 6**, Seki discloses displaying the first portion in the display area comprises displaying a first value in the data field, and wherein presenting the first and second portions in response to user input comprise displaying all the values from the data field (*col.3, lines 44-63*).

**As to dependent claim 7**, Seki discloses displaying at least one additional field of data in each display area for each accessed record (*col.6, lines 5-34*).

**As to dependent claim 8**, Seki discloses the first and second portions are presented in response to user input indicating movement of a graphical pointer over the displayed graphical element (*col.3, lines 44-63*).

**Independent claim 9** is directed to a system for performing the method of claim 1, and is similarly rejected under the same rationale.

**Dependent claims 10 & 12-16** include the same limitations as in claims 2 & 4-8, and are similarly rejected under the same rationale.

**Independent claim 17** is directed to an article of manufacture for implementing the method of claim 1, and is similarly rejected under the same rationale.

**Dependent claims 18 & 20-24** include the same limitations as in claims 2 & 4-8, and are similarly rejected under the same rationale.

4. Claims 3, 11 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Seki et al.** in view of **Barker et al.** as applied to claims 1, 9 and 17 above and further in view of **Applicant Admitted Prior Art (APA)**.

As to dependent claims 3, 11 and 19, the combination of Barker and Seki does not explicitly disclose “hover text”.

APA discloses hover text (*use of hover text is display the entire content in a display area ...to display all the content; specification, page 1*).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of AAPA with Seki because it would have provided the enhanced capability for efficiently displaying data on a limited size of a displaying area.

### ***Response to Arguments***

5. Applicant’s arguments filed 09/15/2003 have been considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that *the icon of the Takasu does not disclose addition data for a field in which a separator indicates that there are multiple values for the field*. (Remarks, page 14, the second paragraph)

In response, the Examiner agrees. However, Seki meets the newly added limitations. Note the rejection above.

Applicant argues that *None of these prior art uses of hover text teach or suggest retrieving one or more records matching a search criteria, wherein each record includes at least one field of data, and, when the field data includes a separator indicating that there are multiple values for the field, displaying a first portion of the field of data and a graphical element*

*indicating that there is a second portion of the field of data.* (Remarks, page 14, the third paragraph)

The Examiner disagrees. APA does teach "Hover text" (Specification, page 1) and the combination meets the limitations as claimed by Applicant.

### **Conclusion**

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Jones et al.	U.S Patent No. 5,748,931	issued dated: May 5, 1998
Bertram et al.	U.S Patent No. 6,073,136	issued dated: Jun. 6, 2000
Angiulo et al.	U.S Patent No. 6,275,829	issued dated: Aug. 14, 2001
Weiner et al.	U.S Patent No. 6,275,229	issued dated: Aug. 14, 2001
Bertram et al.	U.S Patent No. 6,369,820	issued dated: Apr. 9, 2002
Maguire et al.	U.S Patent No. 6,529,217	issued dated: Mar. 4, 2003

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37



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CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Maikhanh Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 306-0092.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 9:00am – 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph H. Feild can be reached on (703) 305-9792. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-5403 for regular communications and (703) 308-5403 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9600.

**Contact Information:**

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Or fax to:

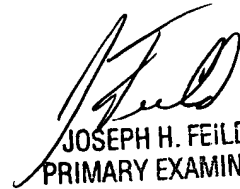
AFTER-FINAL faxes must be signed and sent to (703) 746-7238.  
OFFICIAL faxes must be signed and sent to (703) 872-9306.  
NON OFFICIAL faxes should be sent to (703) 746-7240.

All OFFICIAL faxes will be handled and entered by the docketing personnel. The date of entry will correspond to the actual FAX reception date unless that date is a Saturday, Sunday, or a Federal Holiday within the District of Columbia, in which case the official date of receipt will be the next business day. The application file will be promptly forwarded to the Examiner unless the application file must be sent to another area of the Office, e.g., Finance Division for fee charging, etc.

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Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist). All hand-delivered responses will be handled and entered by the docketing personnel. Please do not hand deliver responses directly to the Examiner.

Maikhanh Nguyen  
November 26, 2003



JOSEPH H. FEILD  
PRIMARY EXAMINER